1.5

No Date

SITE HISTORY:

Aluminum reduction operation since 1952. Put "alumina" in pots (rectangular steel shells), pass e- current through it, and get metal.

Haz. materials = spent pot linings (SPL). High pH, Fl, CN.

>40,000 tons SPL disposed on site between 1952 and 1979. No lining. Now covered and vegetated.

>10,000 tons disposed in lined unit with leachate collection built in 1980. This unit has been clean closed - waste and lining removed, soils sampled. This happened around 1989.

SPL currently generated is stored on concrete pad with inflatable dome over it.

CONTAMINATION:

Cyanide in ground water used for drinking water for on-site workers. The facility is monitoring ground water at the site, under Ecology oversight. We have a graph showing cyanide levels from 1983 - 1987, and have a data table through 1991. Cyanide levels peaked in 1983 at almost .30 mg/l. Levels have consistently dropped through the years. According to Ecology, they are currently at 0.033 mg/l. The MCL, which will be enforceable in the future is 0.2 mg/l.

Fluoride in ground water has remained relatively stable at around 0.6 mg/l. The MCL for fluoride, which is enforceable in community systems, is 4 mg/l.

Ecology investigators feel the SPL pits were unlikely sources of GW contamination. They believe it was caused by past practices in the handling of reclaimed alumina insulation a spill. But this does not explain ongoing fluoride contamination.

Ecology says that the waste at Wenatchee did not have enough cyanide to be classified as dangerous waste.

GROUND WATER:

Ecology reports that wells on site range from 115-125 feet bgs. During the SI, Ecology sampled ground water and found water at around 55 feet bgs and 93 feet bgs.

The company applied for a RCRA GW monitoring waiver. File contains a report discussing GW. Ground water flows toward the Columbia River (toward the NE) at velocity of 0.3 ft/day.